

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) YO US PFOR

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV REACTION TO KISSINGER VISIT

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL HAS EXPRESSED YUGOSLAV PLEASURE AT RESULTS OF KISSINGER VISIT. THIS FAVORABLE ASSESSMENT IS SUPPORTED BY EDITORIAL COMMENT TO DATE. COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF TALKS GENERALLY FOLLOWS OFFICIAL RELEASES ALTHOUGH ONE EDITORIAL MADE NOTE OF MINIC CHALLENGE DURING TALKS TO KISSINGER CONCEPTION OF NONALIGNED AS BLOC. IN REACTION TO US PRESS COVERAGE POLITIKA HAS CRITICIZED WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON VISIT. END SUMMARY

2. NORTH AMERICAN OFFICE DIRECTOR STARCEVIC OF FSFA TOLD DCM 7 NOV THAT YUGOSLAVS WERE EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH KISSINGER VISIT IN ALL RESPECTS. HE EXPRESSED AMAZEMENT AT AMOUNT ACCOMPLISHED IN SUCH SHORT TIME, POINTING OUT THAT THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF MEETING HOURS WOULD NORMALLY REQUIRE A THREE-DAY VISIT TO ACCOMPLISH.

3. THIS POSITIVE ASSESSMENT IS SUPPORTED BY PRESS COMMENT SO FAR: EDITORIALS IN NOVA MAKEDONIJA (NOV 5), VJESNIK (NOV 6), AND NARODNA ARMIJA (NOV 7). NOVA MAKEDONIJA SAID THAT VISIT AND TALKS FULLY JUSTIFIED EXPECTATIONS AND VJESNIK ASSERTED THAT THE TALKS, (WHICH IT TERMED "INTIMATE")

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HAD DISPELLED "CERTAIN CLOUDS" THAT HAD RECENTLY APPEARED IN MUTUAL

RELATIONS. NARODNA ARMIJA POINTED OUT THAT BASIC PURPOSE OF THE TALKS WAS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUAL RELATIONS AND BETTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND THEN ASSESSED YUGOSLA-AMERICAN RELATIONS AFTER THE TALKS AS GOOD AND "PROCEEDING ON AN UPWARD TREND". FAINT PRAISE OF VISIT IN NARODNAHARMIIJA IS PARTICULARLY NOTABLE SINCE PUBLICATION IS NORMALLY NOTED FOR SHARP CRITICISM OF US.

4. VJESNIK POINTED OUT AN EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS DURING THE TALKS BUT ALSO NOTED US "RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT" OF YUGOSLAV NONALIGNED POSITION. BOTH VJESNIK AND NOVA MAKEDONIJA NOTED VISIT'S CONTRIBUTION TO UNDERSTANDING NEED FOR ONGOING EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN US AND YUGOSLAVIA TO PREVENT MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

5. COMMENT ON SUBSTANCE OF TALKS GENERALLY FOLLOWED OFFICIAL RELEASED ALTHOUGH NOVA MAKEDONIJA NOTED KISSINGER DESCRIPTION OF NONALIGNED AS "BLOC" IN DURING TALKS WITH MINIC. EDITORIAL CONTINUES "MINIC POINTED OUT THAT, ACCORDING TO OUR CONCEPT, NONALIGNMENT HAS NEVER SIGNIFIED RALLYING INTO A BLOC AND THAT YUGOSLAVIA HAS ALWAYS OPPOSED THE TENDENCIES OF THE NONALIGNED TO BECOME A NEW VOTING MACHINE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS."

6. IN REACTION TO US PRESS COVERAGE, SIGNED ARTICLE IN NOV 7 POLITIKA ATTACKS WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON VISIT AS NOT REFLECTING SPIRIT OF TALKS "WITH NECESSARY PRECISION". (REFER BELGRADE 5575 FOR TEXT.) POLITIKA QUOTES POST ARTICLE AS STATING TITO AND KISSINGER DISCUSSED QUESTION OF ARMS SUPPLY, WHICH KISSINGER AGREED TO CONSIDER ALTHOUGH HE EXCLUDED POSSIBILITY OF ANY MASSIVE ARMS PROCUREMENT. ARTICLE FURTHER NOTES POST SPECULATION THAT TITO DESIRES ARMS DELIVERIES TO LESSEN DEPENDENCE ON USSR. POLITIKA COMMENTATOR CALLS THIS "MISTAKE OR MISINTERPRETATION" AND DENIES SUBJECT WAS TREATED IN TITO-KISSINGER TALKS, WHILE ADMITTING THAT OTHERS OF KISSINGER'S TALKS HERE TOUCHED ON "MUNITION AND SPARE PARTS PROCUREMENT FOR WEAPONS EARLIER SUPPLIED TO YUGOSLAVIA".
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